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PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Minoru Tsuruta, et al.

Examiner: Unassigned

Serial No: 10/084,557

Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: February 26, 2002

Docket: 15226

For: MEDICAL RETRIEVAL INSTRUMENT **Dated:** May 9, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NOTICE
OF OMITTED ITEMS IN A NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION**

Sir:

Prior to examination and in response to the Notice of Omitted Items in a Nonprovisional Application issued March 26, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

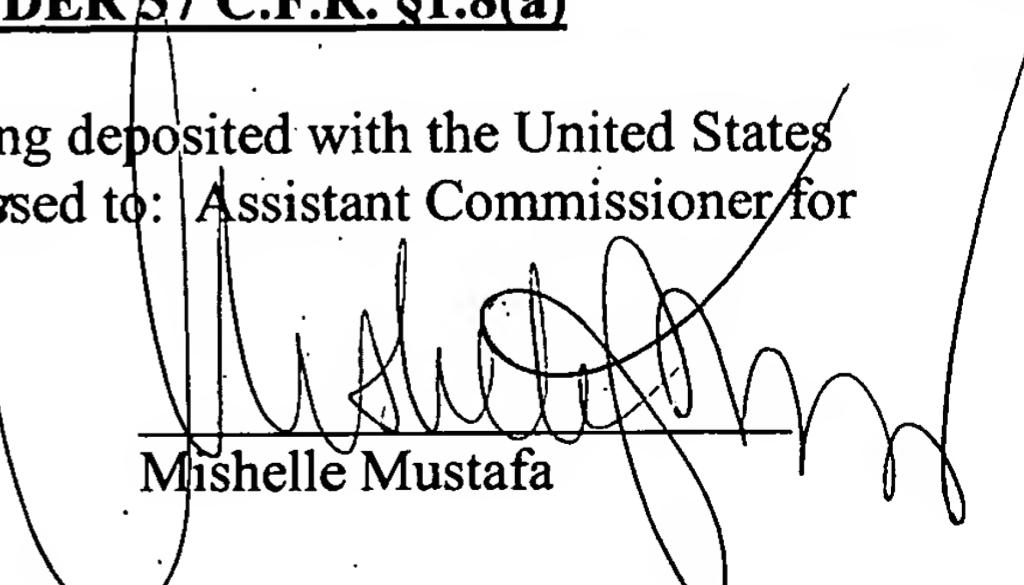
IN THE DRAWINGS:

Attached is a "Request For Approval of Drawing Changes" accompanying additional Figures 2 and 3.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on May 9, 2002.

Dated: May 9, 2002



Mishelle Mustafa